

Appl. No. 10/684,312

PRESENTATION OF CLAIMS**RECEIVED
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Please replace all prior claims in the present application with the following claims, in which none of the claims are herewith canceled, withdrawn or amended.

17. (Previously presented) A device facilitating the heating of items, the device comprising:

a collapsible frame for suspending an item above a heat source, the frame comprising a plurality of sides, at least one of the sides being designated as having user-selectable variable construction and the sides other than the designated side collectively constituting the remainder of the frame;

wherein the side having user-selectable variable construction is constructed of at least one panel selected by a user from among a plurality of available panels and wherein the panel is designed to be removably attached to the remainder of the frame.

18. (Previously presented) The device of claim 17 wherein the device operates in at least one user-selectable in-use configuration wherein the side having user-selectable variable construction is constructed with fewer than all of the available panels that are able to be used on a single side concurrently and any unused panels are entirely excluded from the construction of the side having user-selectable variable construction.

19. (Previously presented) The device of claim 17 wherein the panel selected by the user supports a transverse member for suspending an item above the heat source within the frame.

20. (Previously presented) The device of claim 17 wherein the panel selected by the user is attached along at least two different edges of the panel when installed in the designated side.

21. (Previously presented) The device of claim 17 wherein the panel attaches to at least two different components of the remainder of the frame.

22. (Previously presented) The device of claim 17 wherein a position at which the panel selected by the user is attached to the remainder of the frame is selectable by the user from among more than one possible such position of attachment.
23. (Previously presented) The device of claim 22 wherein the position of attachment of the panel changes at least one of: a proportion of the side that is substantially enclosed, which portion of the side is substantially enclosed by the panel, or a height at which a transverse member, supported by at least one panel, is supported within the frame.
24. (Previously presented) The device of claim 17 wherein the side having user-selectable variable construction is constructed of a first quantity of panels to establish a first value of a variable attribute and alternatively constructed of a second quantity of panels to establish a second value of the variable attribute, the variable attribute being at least one of: a proportion of the side that is substantially enclosed or a height at which a transverse member, supported by one of the panels, is supported within the frame.
25. (Previously presented) The device of claim 17 wherein the available panels exhibit different heights when applied to the frame and wherein the designated side is selectively constructed by a user to include a panel of specific height by which the user adjusts at least one of: how much of the side of user-selectable variable construction is substantially enclosed or at what height a transverse member is supported within the frame.
26. (Previously presented) The device of claim 17 wherein the side having user-selectable variable construction is constructed to comprise a first panel and a second panel, the first and second panels having different heights, wherein, in attaching the first and second panels to the remainder of the frame, the first panel is placed above the second panel to support the transverse member at first height and the first panel is placed below the second panel to support the transverse member at a second height different from the first height.

Appl. No. 10/684,312

27. (Previously presented) The device of claim 17 wherein the side having user-selectable variable construction comprises first and second panels, both concurrently attached to the remainder of the frame, and a transverse member is user selectable to either be directly supported by the first panel in accordance with a first user-selectable configuration or to be directly supported by the second panel in accordance with a second user-selectable configuration.